

Message Text

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PAGE 01 UDORN 00190 220025Z
ACTION EA-12

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FM AMCONSUL UDORN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8589
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L UDORN 0190

E.O. 11652. GDS
TAGS: TH SHUM
SUBJ: POLITICAL DETAINEE MR VIRUTHANA TE-RIN

REF: STATE 189320

1. CONREP TRAVELLED TO RTG SPECIAL TRAINING CENTER AT LARD BUA KHAO, NAKHON RATCHASIMA (KORAT) PROVINCE SEPTEMBER 11 TO OBTAIN UPDATE ON STATUS OF DETAINEE MR VIRUTHANA TE-RIN (WHO PRONOUNCES HIS NAME VIRAT TEURN). CONREP MET WITH BOTH VIRUTHANA AND CENTER COMMANDER MR SURASAK PHONBOON. HIS REPORT FOLLOWS:

2. VIRUTHANA APPEARS IN GOOD HEALTH AND SPIRITS. HE APPARENTLY CONTINUES TO ENJOY GOOD RAPPORT WITH CENTER AUTHORITIES. HE SPENDS MOST OF HIS TIME ENGAGED IN GARDENING AND OTHER CENTER WORK ACTIVITIES.

3. CENTER COMMANDER STATES THAT VIRUTHANA WAS ARRESTED IN SEPTEMBER 1977 FOR RESIDING ILLEGALLY OUTSIDE HIS HOME PROVINCE OF UBON. HE HAS NEVER BEEN FORMALLY CHARGED. CENTER COMMANDER EXPLAINS THAT MR VIRUTHANA COMPLETED A THREE MONTH POLITICAL RE-EDUCATION COURSE AT LARD BUA KHAO JUNE 30 AND IS NOW ELIGIBLE FOR RELEASE, PROVIDED HE ENSURES HIS FUTURE "GOOD BEHAVIOR" EITHER BY:

A) POSTING A CASH BOND OR PROPERTY TITLE WORTH 20,000 BAHT

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(US \$1000); OR

B) HAVING A REPUTABLE INDIVIDUAL, ACCEPTABLE TO LOCAL IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES, TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS ACTIVITIES AFTER HIS DISCHARGE FROM THE CENTER.

4. THOUGH THAI LAW REQUIRES ALL VIETNAMESE NATIONALS RESIDENT IN THAILAND TO REMAIN IN THEIR HOME PROVINCESN CENTER

COMMANDER CLAIMS VIRUTHAN A MAY REQUEST THIS REQUIREMNET
BE WAIVED TO ALLOW HIN TO COMPLETE HIS UNIVERSITY STUDY IN
BANGKOK.

5. ACCORDING TO VIRUTHANA, HIS PARENTS POSTED REQUIRED 20,000
BAHT BOND WITH UBON IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL IN LATE
AUGUST. THE IS NOW WAITING FOR MINISTRY OF INTERIOR TO
APPROVE HIS RELEASEM

6. CENTER COMMANDER ACCEDED TO CONREP'S REQUEST TO RETURN
TO LARD BUA KHAO NEXT MONTH FOR ANOTHER VISIT WITH VIRUTHANA.

7. CONGRESSMAN ANTHONY BEILENSON INTERESTED.
RUEBENSALL

NOTE BY OC/T: TELEGRAM DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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